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# ST. OLAF CHOIR

RALPH M. JOHNSON '78, *GUEST CONDUCTOR*

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## SPRING CONCERT



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SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023 | 7:30 P.M

*BOE MEMORIAL CHAPEL*

# PROGRAM

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## I.

- Cantate Domino** Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562–1621)
- Ach Herr, du Schöpfer aller Ding** Heinrich Schütz (1585–1672)
- Carmina Mei Cordis** Abbie Betinis '01 (b. 1980)  
I. Aeterna lux, divinitas  
II. Angele Dei
- “Alleluia” from *Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden* (BWV 230)** Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

## II.

- Lord, Thee I Love** Ralph M. Johnson '78 (b. 1955)
- In Time of Pestilence** Ned Rorem (1923–2022)
- And So I Go On** Jake Runestad (b. 1986)
- “Hymn to the Eternal Flame” from *To Be Certain of the Dawn*** Stephen Paulus (1949–2014)

## INTERMISSION

## III.

- Bright Morning Stars** Traditional, as sung by Oysterband  
adapt. Ralph M. Johnson '78
- Selene's Boat** Don MacDonald (b. 1966)
- Loch Lomond** Traditional Scottish  
arr. Jonathan Quick (b. 1970)
- Jenny Kissed Me** Ralph M. Johnson '78 (b. 1955)

## IV.

- All You Works of the Lord, Bless the Lord** Kenneth Jennings '50 (1925–2015)
- Be Thou with Me** Johann W. Franck (1644–1710)  
arr. Morton J. Luvaas
- O Christ, Surround Me** Richard Bruxvoort Colligan (b. 1967)  
arr. David Sims '06
- Let Everything that Hath Breath** Jeffrey L. Ames (b. 1969)
- Beautiful Savior** arr. F. Melius Christiansen (1871–1955)

# CHORAL TEXTS

The music you are about to hear is the result, first, of the composers and poets who engaged their imaginations, skills and efforts to create something — a piece of music — that had not previously existed in the world. Secondly, it reflects hours of hard work, patience and artistry on the part of the young singers who stand before you this evening. Thirdly, this music asks you, the audience, to complete the circle of poet, composer and performers, and to engage your ears, hearts, and imaginations to become part of the journey we will soon share together.

A few road markers on the way:

Our program begins with joyful praise to the God who created the universe (*Cantate Domino*), and then pauses to reflect on that God's choice of a humble encounter with us as one of us (*Ach Herr, du Schöpfer aller Ding*). The two movements of Abbie Betinis' lovely *Carmina Mei Cordis* draws us deeper into the contrast of a Spirit-Creator of all things who yet loves and guards each one of us. What response can we have but *Alleluia*?

In Set II we explore the more difficult parts of our human experience: illness (*In Time of Pestilence*), loss (*And So I Go On*), and the continued presence of those who have gone on before us (*Hymn to the Eternal Flame*).

Following intermission, we refresh ourselves with music that springs from our folk and popular heritage, with a wink and a nod to good memories in old age (*Jenny Kissed Me*). In the last section, we return to music of praise and devotion, closing with a restatement of the theme — in a much different musical expression — of the evening's opening work. We hope you enjoy tonight's concert.

— Ralph M. Johnson

## I.

### Cantate Domino

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562–1621)

Cantate Domino canticum novum;  
*O sing unto the Lord a new song;*  
Cantate Domino omnis terra;  
*sing unto the Lord, all the earth;*  
et benedicite nomini ejus;  
*and bless God's name;*

annuntiate de die in diem salutare ejus;  
*show forth God's salvation from day to day,*  
annuntiate inter gentes gloriam ejus,  
*declare God's glory among the nations,*  
in omnibus populis mirabilia ejus.  
*God's wonders among all people.*

— Psalm 96:1–3;  
trans. by Donald Colton

### Ach Herr, du Schöpfer aller Ding

Heinrich Schütz (1585–1672)

Leigha Daniels '24, cello

Ach, Herr, du Schöpfer aller Ding,  
*Ah Lord, who hast created all,*  
wie bist du worden so gering,  
*How hast Thou made Thee weak and small,*

daß du da liegst auf dürrem Gras,  
*That Thou must choose Thy infant bed,*  
davon ein Rind und Esel aß!  
*Where ass and ox but lately fed!*

— Martin Luther;  
trans. by Catherine Winkworth

## **Carmina Mei Cordis**

Abbie Betinis '01 (b. 1980)

### **I. Aeterna lux, divinitas**

Aeterna lux, divinitas,  
in unitate Trinitas,  
te confitemur debiles,  
te deprecamur supplices. Alleluia!

Christum rogamus et Patrem,  
Christi Patrisque Spiritum;  
unum potens per omnia,  
fove precantes, Trinita. Alleluia!

Qui finis et exordium  
rerumque fons es omnium,  
tu solus es solacium,  
tu certa spes credentium. Alleluia!

O veritas, o caritas,  
o finis et felicitas,  
sperare fac et credere,  
amare fac et consequi.

Qui cuncta solus efficis  
cunctisque solus sufficis,  
tu sola lux es omnibus  
et praemium sperantibus. Alleluia!

Eternal Light, Divinity,  
O Unity in Trinity,  
Thy holy name Thy servants bless,  
to Thee we pray, and Thee confess. Alleluia!

O Father, Source of God the Word,  
O Word with Him co-equal Lord,  
O Spirit of like majesty,  
O Triune God, all praise to Thee. Alleluia!

Thou First and Last, from whom there springs  
the Fount of all created things,  
Thou art the Life which moves the whole,  
sure hope of each believing soul. Alleluia!

O Verity! O Charity!  
O Ending and Felicity!  
in Thee we hope, in Thee believe,  
Thyself we love, to Thee we cleave.

Thou who alone the world hast made,  
art still its one sufficing aid,  
the only Light for gazing eyes,  
and, unto them that hope, the Prize. Alleluia

— *From the Liturgia Horarum;*  
*trans. by R.F. Littledale*

### **II. Angele Dei**

Angele Dei,  
qui custos es mei,  
Me tibi commissum pietate superna;  
Hac nocte illumina,  
custodi, rege, et gubernata.  
Amen.

Angel of God,  
my guardian dear,  
To whom his love commits me here;  
Ever this night be at my side,  
To light and guard, to rule and guide.  
Amen.

— *Attrib. Reginald of Canterbury*  
*trans. from Baltimore Manual of Prayers*

### **“Alleluia” from *Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden* (BWV 230)**

Leigha Daniels '24, *cello*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

## II.

### Lord, Thee I Love

Ralph M. Johnson '78 (b. 1955)

Lord, thee I love with all my heart;  
I pray thee, ne'er from me depart,  
with tender mercy cheer me.  
Earth has no pleasure I would share;  
yea, heav'n itself were void and bare  
if thou, Lord, were not near me.  
And should my heart for sorrow break,  
my trust in thee can nothing shake.  
Thou art the portion I have sought;  
thy precious blood my soul has bought.  
Lord Jesus Christ, my God and Lord, my God and Lord,  
forsake me not! I trust thy word.

— *Martin Schalling;*  
*trans. by Catherine Winkworth, alt.*

### In Time of Pestilence

Ned Rorem (1923–2022)

Adieu, farewell earth's bliss!  
The world uncertain is:  
Fond are life's lustful joys,  
Death proves them all but toys  
None from his darts can fly;  
I am sick, I must die—  
Lord, have mercy on us!

Rich men, trust not in wealth,  
Gold cannot buy you health;  
Physic himself must fade;  
All things to end are made;  
The plague full swift goes by;  
I am sick, I must die—  
Lord, have mercy on us!

Beauty is but a flower  
Which wrinkles will devour;  
Brightness falls from the air;  
Queens have died young and fair;  
Dust hath closed Helen's eye;  
I am sick, I must die  
Lord, have mercy on us!

Strength stoops unto the grave,  
Worms feed on Hector brave;  
Swords may not fight with faith;  
Earth still holds open her gate;  
Come, come! The bells do cry;  
I am sick, I must die—  
Lord, have mercy on us!

With his wantonness  
Tasteth death's bitterness;  
Hell's executioner  
Hath no ears to hear  
What vain art can reply  
I am sick, I must die—  
Lord, have mercy on us!

Haste therefore each degree  
To welcome destiny;  
Heaven is our heritage,  
Earth but a player's stage.  
Mount we unto the sky;  
I am sick, I must die—  
Lord, have mercy on us!

— *Thomas Nash*

**And So I Go On**

Jake Runestad (b. 1986)

My lovely one	My lovely one
though you are gone	I am gone
taken from me	taken from you
I cannot leave you	mine in your suffering
I am not free	mine in your joy
I burn in snow	my snow will kiss you
and thirst in rain	pouring down my love
there is no sea	there is no sea
that can drown my pain	that can drown your pain
but you would want me to live	I want you to live
and love again	and love again
and so I go on	and so I go on
always	always
wherever you are	wherever you are
lovely one	lovely one

— Todd Boss  
© 2015 Jake Runestad

**“Hymn to the Eternal Flame” from *To Be Certain of the Dawn***

Stephen Paulus (1949–2014)

Every face is in you,  
Every voice,  
Every sorrow in you.  
Every pity,  
Every love, every memory,  
Woven into fire.

Every breath is in you,  
Every cry,  
Every longing in you,  
Every singing,  
Every hope, every healing,  
Woven into fire.

Every heart is in you,  
Every tongue,  
Every trembling in you,  
Every blessing,  
Every soul, every shining,  
Woven into fire.

— Michael Dennis Browne  
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**INTERMISSION**

### III.

#### Bright Morning Stars

Traditional, as sung by Oysterband  
adapt. Ralph M. Johnson '78

Bright morning stars are rising  
Day is a-breaking in my soul.  
Oh, where are our dear mothers?  
Day is a-breaking in my soul.  
They are down in the valley praying.  
Day is a-breaking in my soul.  
Oh, where are our dear fathers?  
Day is a-breaking in my soul.  
They are gone to heaven shouting.  
Day is a-breaking in my soul.  
Bright morning stars are rising.  
Day is breaking in my soul.

— *Appalachian spiritual*

#### Selene's Boat

William Fecko '24, *marimba*

Don MacDonald (b. 1966)

Lifting hopeful eyes  
to the darkening sky  
I look for signs the moon is nigh.

Finding mountain paths  
through the brown-skinned night  
I leave the beach so soon I might ...

... Reach for the moon  
Harvest the moonlight  
Gather the moonlight

And I hold Lunar Nectar  
in my trembling hand.  
Shifting moonlight to pockets,  
I make my way back to the strand.

Down the path once more  
Back onto the sand  
To where my boat is trapped on land.

Summoning the bright  
Soul of Satellite:  
"Speak to the sea! Call in the tide!"

Guided by moon  
Counseled by moon.  
Led by the moonlight.  
Governed by moonlight.

And I empty my pockets  
Onto the shore  
And the water floods in  
Where only sand was there before.

— Allison Girvan  
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Poet Allison Girvan writes:

Selene is a descendent of her namesake, the Greek goddess of the moon, and although she is mortal, she has the ability to harness the power of the moon. One night, she finds herself stuck and draws on the gift of her mixed heritage. This was a very intentional framing of a picture of an environment from the perspective of Selene who in my imagination is a girl who is mixed race. It is, in fact, a story that I would have wished to have heard when I was growing up as a biracial child in a world where I experienced no primary character whom I could imagine looked like me. The image of a "brown-skinned night" is a way to reinforce the concept of being surrounded by a reflection of her own reality — a place she belongs.

## Loch Lomond

Traditional Scottish  
arr. Jonathan Quick (b. 1970)

By yon bonnie banks and by yon bonnie braes,  
Where the sun shines bright on Loch Lomond,  
Where me and my true love were ever wont to gae,  
On the bonnie, bonnie banks o' Loch Lomond.

*Chorus:*

O ye'll tak' the high road, and I'll tak' the low road,  
And I'll be in Scotland a'fore ye,  
But me and my true love will never meet again,  
On the bonnie, bonnie banks o' Loch Lomond.

'Twas there that we parted, in yon shady glen,  
On the steep, steep side o' Ben Lomond,  
Where deep purple hue, the highland hills we view,  
And the moon coming out in the gloaming.

*Chorus*

The wee birdies sing and the wildflowers spring,  
And in sunshine the waters lie sleeping.  
But the broken heart will ken nae\* second spring again,  
And the world knows not how we are grieving.

*Chorus*

(\**ken nae* = "know no")

— *Traditional Scottish folksong*

## Jenny Kissed Me

Ralph M. Johnson '78 (b. 1955)

Jenny kiss'd me when we met,  
Jumping from the chair she sat in;  
Time, you thief, who love to get  
Sweets into your list, put that in!  
Say I'm weary, say I'm sad,  
Say that health and wealth have miss'd me,  
Say I'm growing old, but add,  
Jenny kiss'd me.

— *James Henry Leigh Hunt*



#### IV.

### All You Works of the Lord, Bless the Lord

Kenneth Jennings '50 (1925–2015)

All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord,  
Praise God and magnify God forever.  
You angels of the Lord, bless the Lord;  
You heavens bless the Lord;  
All you pow'rs of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Praise God and magnify God forever.

You sun and moon, bless the Lord;  
You stars of heaven, bless the Lord;  
You showers and dew, bless the Lord.  
Praise God and magnify God forever.

You winds of God, bless the Lord;  
You fire and heat, bless the Lord;  
You winter and summer, bless the Lord.  
Praise God and magnify God forever.

You dews and frost, bless the Lord;  
You frost and cold, bless the Lord;  
You ice and snow, bless the Lord.  
Praise God and magnify God forever.

You nights and days, bless the Lord;  
You light and darkness, bless the Lord;  
You lightning and clouds, bless the Lord.  
Praise God and magnify God forever.

Let the earth bless the Lord;  
You mountains and hills, bless the Lord;  
All you green things that grow on the earth,  
bless the Lord.  
Praise God and magnify God forever.

You wells and springs, bless the Lord;  
You rivers and seas, bless the Lord;  
You whales and all who move in the waters,  
bless the Lord.  
Praise God and magnify God forever.

All you birds of the air, bless the Lord;  
All you beasts and cattle, bless the Lord;  
Children of mortals, bless the Lord.  
Praise God and magnify God forever.

You people of God, bless the Lord;  
You priests of the Lord, bless the Lord;  
You servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Praise God and magnify God forevermore.

You spirits and souls of the righteous;  
You pure and humble of heart, bless the Lord:  
Let us bless the Father and the Son and the  
Holy Spirit.  
Praise God and magnify God forever.

Amen.

— *Benedicite, omnia opera*  
(*Daniel 3:57–88*)

### Be Thou with Me

Johann W. Franck (1644–1710)  
arr. Morton J. Luvaas

Be Thou with me through darkened night,  
That I may see the day illumined bright  
Oh, thank Thee for the hope we have in Thee.

Take Thou my hand near Thee to stand.  
All they rejoice who lay their trust in Thee,  
Our Savior, forever Thine to be.

Songs of triumph praise Thy name  
above all earthly joy proclaim!  
Enlighten my eyes to see the way:

Be Thou with me, Oh Savior most high.

— *Agnes P. Olsen*  
Copyright © 1958 Neil A. Kjos Music Co.

## O Christ, Surround Me

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan (b. 1967)  
arr. David Sims '06

God be the love to search and keep me  
God be the prayer to move my voice  
God be the strength to now uphold me  
O Christ, surround me  
O Christ, surround me

Bind to myself the name of Holy  
Great cloud of witnesses enfold  
Prophets, apostles, angels witness  
O Christ, surround me  
O Christ, surround me

Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight  
Flashing of lightning, strength of wind  
Depth of the sea to soil of planet  
O Christ, surround me  
O Christ, surround me

Walking behind to hem my journey  
Going ahead to light my way  
And from beneath, above, and all ways  
O Christ, surround me  
O Christ, surround me

Christ in the eyes of all who see me  
Christ in the ears who hear my voice  
Christ in the hearts of all who know me  
O Christ, surround me  
O Christ, surround me

— *Richard Bruxvoort Colligan*  
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## Let Everything that Hath Breath

Jeffrey L. Ames (b. 1969)

Sing unto the Lord a new song. Sing unto the Lord all the earth  
Declare God's glory among the nations.  
Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.  
Magnify the Lord with me and exalt God's name together  
Hallelujah, bless God's name for God is worthy to be praised.  
Clap your hands all ye people. Shout with the voice of triumph!  
For the Mighty Lord is great and greatly to be praised.  
Let everything that than breath praise the Lord.  
Come on and praise the Lord Let's all praise God's name.  
Give God the highest praise. Praise God, the Lord  
Praise God with the timbrel, praise God with the dance.  
Stand up on your feet and just lift up holy hands.  
Sing "Hallelujah" Praise God's holy name.  
For the Lord is worthy to be praised. Let's praise the Lord.  
Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. You ought to praise God!

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## Beautiful Savior

arr. F. Melius Christiansen (1871–1955)

# ST. OLAF CHOIR

RALPH M. JOHNSON '78, GUEST CONDUCTOR

## SOPRANO I

Emma Auby, *Monona, Wis.*  
Cate Crockett, *Rochester, Minn.*  
Rachel Du Four, *Fair Oaks, Calif.*  
^Kayli Keim, *Millersburg, Ohio*  
•Ileana Sanchez, *Woodbury, Minn.*  
-Meredith Wallace, *New York, N.Y.*  
Meredith Williams, *Centennial, Colo.*

## SOPRANO II

India Bock, *Seattle, Wash.*  
Claire Bouma, *Omaha, Neb.*  
Abigail Carter, *Longmont, Colo.*  
Taylor Dirks, *Dekalb, Ill.*  
Abby Engbrecht, *Faribault, Minn.*  
\*Caroline Flaten, *Prior Lake, Minn.*  
Lydia Hill, *Ankeny, Iowa*

## ALTO I

•Olivia Inberg, *Magnolia, Texas*  
Grace Knowlan, *Stillwater, Minn.*  
Abigail Lundeen, *Golden, Colo.*  
\*Josie Lynn, *Mechanicsville, Va.*  
Hannah Paulson, *Woodstock, Ill.*  
Ella Pike, *Lincoln, Neb.*  
Emma Silvestri, *Lawrence, Kan.*  
Sarah Teske, *Onalaska, Wis.*  
Zoe Vorbach, *Marshall, Minn.*

## ALTO II

Maria Coughlan, *St. Paul, Minn.*  
Jan-Rose Davis, *Cold Spring, Minn.*  
Rachel Milt, *Winchester, Mass.*  
Natalie Robuck, *Columbia, Mo.*  
Alexys Sayegh, *Corona, Calif.*  
Sophia Sawoski, *Los Angeles, Calif.*  
Tove Trelstad-Larsen, *Tacoma, Wash.*  
Julie Xiong, *Stillwater, Minn.*

## TENOR I

Logan Cyr, *Minneapolis, Minn.*  
William Fecko, *State College, Pa.*  
Cullen Hauck, *Northfield, Minn.*  
Mark Jesmer, *Dekalb, Ill.*  
Thomas Krueger, *Lakeville, Minn.*  
Thomas McCarthy, *Albuquerque, N.M.*  
Noah Smith, *Glasgow, Ky.*  
Jacob Vidervol, *Andover, Minn.*

## TENOR II

Thomas Garcia, *Phoenix, Ariz.*  
Caleb Griffiths, *Edina, Minn.*  
^Aaron Looney, *Bridgewater, Va.*  
Rand Matheson, *St. Michael, Minn.*  
Jake Olson, *Lake Elmo, Minn.*  
\*Blake Wieseler, *Yankton, S.D.*

## BASS I

Paul Freelove, *Pillager, Minn.*  
Ethan Jones, *Alna, Maine*  
Aiden Kocian, *League City, Texas*  
Christopher Kopits, *Princeton, N.J.*  
Seng Lor, *Maplewood, Minn.*  
Chris Martin, *Berkeley, Calif.*  
~Oliver Steissberg, *Davis, Calif.*  
Henry Vermeer, *Des Moines, Iowa*

## BASS II

-Jayden Browne, *Lancaster, Pa.*  
Peter Hoffman, *Walla Walla, Wash.*  
Murali Meyer, *San Francisco, Calif.*  
Nicholas Rhodes, *Kennett Square, Pa.*  
\*•Jack Slavik, *Andover, Minn.*  
Nicholas Van Loh, *Duluth, Minn.*

\* Section leader

• Officer

^ Manager

- Librarian

~ Pianist/organist

## MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS AND COLLEGE RELATIONS

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Jean Parish '88, *director of college relations for music organizations*  
Terra Widdifield '95, *associate director of music organizations*  
Connor Smith, *assistant director of music organizations for audience development*  
Sarah Gingerich '11, *assistant director of music organizations for project management*  
Jonathan Kopplin, *associate librarian for ensembles and performing rights*  
Emma Jenks '22, *coordinator of music organizations*  
Gabbie Holtzman '21, *ticketing coordinator*

## FINE ARTS ADMISSIONS

Molly Boes Ganza '08, *associate dean of fine arts recruitment*

## DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Kathryn Ananda-Owens, *department chair*  
David Carter, *department vice-chair*  
Barb Barth, *academic administrative assistant*  
Lisa McDermott, *academic administrative assistant*  
Jason Bystrom, *instrument coordinator*

## BROADCAST/MEDIA SERVICES

Jeffrey O'Donnell '02, *director of broadcast/media services*  
Sean Tonko, *associate director of event operations*  
Grant Furguele, *associate director of broadcast engineering*  
Rebecca Beam '18, *assistant director of production*

**Ralph M. Johnson '78 (he/him/his)** is a choral conductor and composer based in the Twin Cities. Over a 43-year career, he has served as music director for a number of Twin Cities congregations, retiring this past summer after a wonderful 11 years at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Minneapolis (a congregation with many ties to St. Olaf). A former member of both the St. Olaf Choir and St. Olaf Chapel Choir (along with current Ole Choir conductor Anton Armstrong), Ralph has combined his work as a choral conductor with an active career as a composer, and has been honored to have heard his compositions sung by several of St. Olaf's choral ensembles over the years. Ralph holds the bachelor of music degree in music theory and composition from St. Olaf College, and the master of arts degree in music theory and composition from the University of Minnesota. As a church musician, he has delighted in working with singers of all ages, from three years old up to 93, and has enjoyed conducting choirs in smaller anthems as well as larger works by Heinrich Schütz, Maurice Duruflé, Gabriel Fauré, John Rutter, and others. Ralph is thrilled to have this opportunity to get to know and to make music with the extraordinary student musicians here at St. Olaf this spring.